

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15  
ICA-11 IO-13 TRSE-00 OMB-01 /088 W  
-----088109 200601Z /10  
R 190827Z JUL 78  
FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7880  
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L KHARTOUM 3254

DEPT PASS OAU COLLECTIVE

E.O.11652: GDS  
TAGS: PORG OAU XA  
SUBJECT: OPENING OF FIFTEENTH OAU SUMMIT

1. WITH THE REST OF MY DIPLOMATIC COLLEAGUES I ATTENDED THE  
FORMAL OPENING OF THE FIFTEENTH OAU SUMMIT LAST NIGHT JULY 18.  
PROCEEDINGS TOOK FOUR AND ONE-HALF HOURS. CHAIRS IN VISITORS'  
GALLERY WERE FAIRLY COMFORTABLE AT FIRST BUT GREW PROGRESSIVELY  
HARDER AS EVENING WORE ON.

2. CHIEFS OF STATE UPON ARRIVAL AT FRIENDSHIP HALL WERE TAKEN  
TO A ROOM BEHIND CHAIRMAN'S DAIS WHILE FONMINS AND OTHER  
MEMBERS OF DELEGATIONS WENT DIRECTLY TO THEIR ALLOCATED SEATS.  
SOLE EXCEPTION WAS TANZANIA'S NYERERE WHO ENTERED WITH  
HIS DELEGATION AND SAT QUIETLY WITH THEM FROM OUTSET. AFTER A  
SUITABLE INTELVAL THE CHIEFS OF STATE ENTERED THE ROOM ONE BY  
ONE (IT REMINDED ME A LITTLE BIT OF A BUSBY BERKLEY MANEUVER  
IN A 1930'S MUSICAL FILM). ONLY TWO LEADERS TO RECEIVE  
SIGNIFICANT OVATION UPON ENTRY WERE ALGERIA'S BOUMEDDIENE  
AND EGYPT'S SADAT. I AND MANY OF MY COLLEAGUES AS WELL  
AS SUDANESE VISITORS DID OUR BEST TO MAKE SURE THAT SADAT'S  
CLIQUE WAS NOISIEST. WE SUCCEEDED. UGANDA'S IDI AMIN  
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GRACED THE PROCEEDINGS ATTIRED IN AN AIR MARSHAL'S UNIFORM  
WITH A PISTOL ON HIS HIP.

3. THE FLOOR WAS FULL OF PRESS PHOTOGRAPHERS WHO WERE  
APPARENTLY PERMITTED TO ROAM AT WILL. SADAT AGAIN WAS THE  
CYNOSURE OF MOST OF THEM BUT BOUMEDDIENE RECEIVED ENOUGH  
CLOSE-UP CAMERA ATTENTION TO MAKE HIM LOOK QUITE

UNCOMFORTABLE.

4. THIS WAS, WE ARE TOLD, BEST ATTENDED OAU SUMMIT IN HISTORY. THIRTY HEADS OF STATE AND FOUR HEADS OF GOVERNMENT WERE PRESENT. THIS IN MANY WAYS IS PROBABLY A GOOD THING. ON THE OTHER HAND, SOMETHING LIKE A VARIATION OF GRESHAM'S LAW TAKES PLACE WITH SO MANY LUMINARIES ASSEMBLE UNDER ONE ROOF. AS THEIR NUMBERS INCREASE, THEIR CHARISMA DECLINES.

5. PROCEEDINGS WERE ORDERLY AND DIGNIFIED. SPEAKERS WERE: NIMEIRI (KEYNOTED), TOLBERT (REPLYING FOR ANGLOPHONES), KOUNTCHE (REPLYING FOR FRANCOPHONES), MUGABE (REPLYING FOR LIBERATION MOVEMENTS), WALDHEIM (USUAL SELF-SERVING

DRIVEL), BONGO (FAREWELL ADDRESS), AND NIMEIRI (PICKING UP THE TORCH). SADAT LEFT AFTER NIMEIRI'S FIRST SPEECH. SUMMARIES OF SPEECHES BEING SENT SEPTEL..

6. CHIEFS OF STATE AND FOREIGN MINISTERS THEN REPAIRED TO ADJOINING BANQUET FOR USUAL SUMPTUOUS SUDANESE FARE. THE REST OF US WENT HOME AND HAD A DRINK.  
BERGUS

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED.  
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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** SUMMIT MEETINGS, MEETING REPORTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 19 jul 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978KHARTO03254  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780297-0777  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Retention:** 0  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 1958954  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** OPENING OF FIFTEENTH OAU SUMMIT  
**TAGS:** PORG, XA, OAU  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014